



**Better Buildings Residential Network  
Peer Exchange Call Series:**  
*Looking Ahead in 2019: Hear About Trends in the  
Field*

January 10, 2018

# Agenda and Ground Rules

- Agenda Review and Ground Rules
- Opening Poll
- Residential Network Overview and Upcoming Call Schedule
- Featured Speakers:
  - **Frank Rapley & Beth Parsons**, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)
  - **Peter Troast**, Energy Circle
  - **Martha Campbell**, Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI)
- Open Discussion
- Closing Poll and Announcements

## Ground Rules:

1. **Sales of services and commercial messages are not appropriate** during Peer Exchange Calls.
2. Calls are a safe place for discussion; **please do not attribute information to individuals** on the call.

*The views expressed by speakers are their own, and do not reflect those of the Dept. of Energy.*

# Better Buildings Residential Network

## Join the Network

### Member Benefits:

- Recognition in media and publications
- Speaking opportunities
- Updates on latest trends
- Voluntary member initiatives
- Solution Center guided tours

### Commitment:

- Members only need to provide *one number*: their organization's number of residential energy upgrades per year, or equivalent.

### Upcoming calls:

- January 24<sup>th</sup>: Resiliency in the Face of Disaster: Energy Efficiency's Role
- February 14<sup>th</sup>: We Love Our National Labs: Research Results (Part 1)
- February 28<sup>th</sup>: We Love Our National Labs: Research Results (Part 2)

*Peer Exchange Call summaries are posted on the Better Buildings [website](#) a few weeks after the call*

*For more information or to join, for no cost, email*

*[bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov](mailto:bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov), or go to [energy.gov/eere/bbrn](http://energy.gov/eere/bbrn) & click Join*



**Frank Rapley & Beth Parsons**  
**Tennessee Valley Authority**



# Health and Household Benefits Attributable to the Knoxville Extreme Energy Makeover (KEEM) Project: Preliminary Final Results

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FRANK RAPLEY  
BETH PARSONS  
JANUARY 2019

# Acknowledgements

- This research is made possible by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
- This project benefits from an extraordinary set of partners:
  - Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)
  - Office of Sustainability, City of Knoxville
  - City of Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC)
  - Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB)
  - Center for Applied Research and Evaluation (CARE), University of Tennessee, Knoxville

# Outline

- About KEEM
- Research Design
- Selected Preliminary Final Results
  - Demographics
  - Home Conditions
  - Health Impacts
  - Budget Tradeoffs
- Research Next Steps



# Tennessee Valley Authority's Extreme Energy Makeovers

- TVA-funded initiative to address energy affordability needs of limited-income families in seven communities
- Targeted 25% electric energy savings at no cost to participants
- Homes  $\geq$  20 years old
- Maximum spend of \$10.00 per square foot
- Community and participant education and outreach required





# Knoxville Extreme Energy Makeover



**CAC** Knoxville - Knox County  
Community Action Committee  
*Helping People. Changing Lives.*



# Research Design

- Spring and summer (2017), a phone survey was administered to three groups of homes:
  - CwT – Comparison with Treatment Group (i.e., already received weatherization)
  - T – Treatment Group (i.e., will receive weatherization during course of study)
  - CWL – Control Waiting List Group (i.e., will not be weatherized during course of study)
- The survey collected data on reported health conditions, home conditions, budget issues and demographics.
- The survey was re-administered fall(2018). Door-to-door non-response follow-up is now being conducted.

# Demographics – Collected Pre-Treatment/Post-Treatment

Variable/Group	Comparison (N=150/130)	Treatment (N=88/66)	Control (N=191/91)
Respondent Gender: Female	73.1%/74.6%	78.4%/78.8%	78.7%/78.0%
Respondent Age	58/59	55/56	56/60
Average Household Size	2.03/2.06	2.03/2.08	2.17/2.01
Black or African American	44.7%/46.2%	33.0%/37.9%	26.7%/25.3%
Respondent Employed	35.0%/31.5%	39.8%/34.8%	37.4%/35.7%
Respondent Retired	30.5%/32.3%	22.7%/21.2%	25.3%/34.1%
Respondent Married	19.8%/17.7%	22.7%/22.7%	26.7%/28.6%
Respondent Education: GED or less	50.2%/50.0%	43.1%/37.9%	58.0%/56.1%

## Home Sometimes Kept at Unhealthy Temperature

	Comparison Group	Treatment Group	Control Group
Pre-weatherization	12.7%	51.2%	42.6%
Post-weatherization	11.6%	15.2%	28.6%
Change	-1.1%	-36.0%	-14.0%

## Home Was Observed To Be Drafty

	Comparison Group	Treatment Group	Control Group
Pre-weatherization	12.2%	45.4%	34.7%
Post-weatherization	10.0%	15.2%	24.2%
Change	-2.2%	-30.2%	-10.5%

## Number of Days Previous Month Mental Health Not Good: Main Respondents

	Comparison Group	Treatment Group	Control Group
Pre-weatherization	4.8	9.7	8.0
Post-weatherization	6.0	6.4	8.3
Change	+1.2	-3.3	+.3

## Number of Days Previous Month Rest/Sleep Not Good: Main Respondents

	Comparison Group	Treatment Group	Control Group
Pre-weatherization	9.7	15.3	13.7
Post-weatherization	11.6	12.1	11.7
Change	+1.9	-3.2	-2.0

## It is Hard to Pay Energy Bills

	Comparison Group	Treatment Group	Control Group
Pre-weatherization	50.8%	76.1%	65.4%
Post-weatherization	57.7%	51.3%	52.8%
Change	+6.9%	-24.8%	-12.6%

## Did Not Buy Food to Pay Energy Bills

	Comparison Group	Treatment Group	Control Group
Pre-weatherization	27.4%	35.2%	46.1%
Post-weatherization	30.8%	28.8%	39.6%
Change	+3.4%	-6.4%	-6.5%

## Missed Days of Work: Primary Wage Earner

	Comparison Group	Treatment Group	Control Group
Pre-weatherization	12.7	16.8	17.8
Post-weatherization	7.1	7.5	17.0
Change	-5.6	-9.3	-0.8

## How Often Receive a Disconnect Notice

	Comparison Group	Treatment Group	Control Group
Pre-weatherization	36.7%	51.1%	59.4%
Post-weatherization	29.9%	39.4%	42.7%
Change	-9.8%	-12.7%	-16.7%



# Research Next Steps

- Complete re-survey of KEEM households.
- Acquire energy savings estimates for CwT and T based on the analysis of weather normalized utility bills.
- Estimate changes of health attributable to KEEM.
- Monetize a subset of these benefits (e.g., asthma).
- Conduct explanatory factors analysis to attribute changes in health attributable to specific and/or packages of weatherization measures.
- Explore health benefits deriving from direct and indirect changes in household budgets from energy cost savings.

# Contact Information

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# Key Points

- TVA-funded pilot initiative targeted 25% energy savings in residential retrofits with maximum spend of \$10/sq. ft.
- Follow-up surveys indicated promising results
- Next steps include further research into energy savings and an exploration/quantification of health benefits of retrofits



**Peter Troast**  
**Energy Circle**



# Residential Energy Efficiency—Looking Ahead 2019

Peter Troast, Energy Circle

DOE Better Buildings Residential Network

Peer Exchange Call, January 10, 2019

# The Lens I See Through

Marketing & Lead Generation Services  
for 350+ Better Building Contracting  
Businesses

HVAC, Home Performance, Solar,  
Insulation, Auditors/Raters, Builders,  
Remodelers

50 States, Canada & Countless Climate  
Zones

An Inside View of Many Business  
Models and Their Success

Deep Dataset on What is Making the  
Phone Ring

Our Mantra: More Successful  
Contractors = More Retrofits





# Thoughts As We Enter 2019

- 1 DIVERSIFYING BUSINESS MODELS = HOME PERFORMANCE SUCCESS
- 2 SERVICES THAT ARE BREAKING THROUGH & PROVIDING “GATEWAYS” TO LARGER JOBS



**DIVERSIFYING BUSINESS MODELS**  
**=**  
**HOME PERFORMANCE SUCCESS**



what is home performance



All

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Search tools

About 346,000,000 results (0.42 seconds)

Showing results for **what is home performance**

Search instead for **what is home performance?**

**Home Performance** is a philosophy and a science based on the premise that **homes** should be safe, healthy, comfortable, durable, and efficient.

**What is Home Performance? - Building Performance Group**

[www.buildingperformancegroup.com/learn/what-is-home-performance](http://www.buildingperformancegroup.com/learn/what-is-home-performance)

*Feedback*

**Residential Home Performance - What is Home ...**

<https://www.consumersenergy.com/.../HPHome.aspx?i...> ▾ Consumers Energy ▾

**Home Performance** with ENERGY STAR® uses science to bring comfort and efficiency home. It's the whole-house solution that analyzes your home and ...

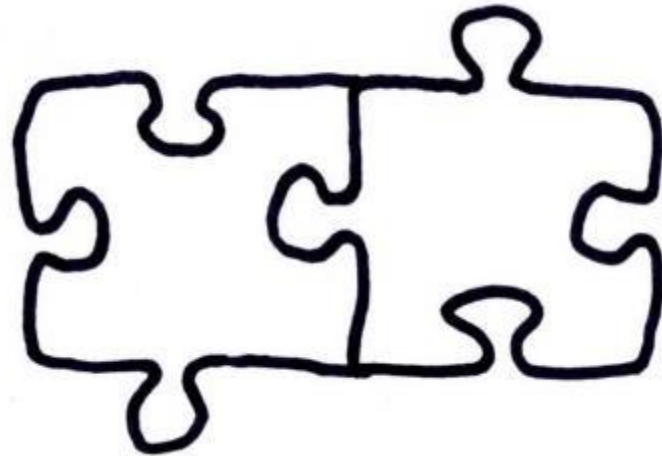
**Home Performance with ENERGY STAR : ENERGY STAR**

[www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) ▸ [Home](#) ▸ [Home Improvement](#) ▸ [Assess Your Home](#) ▾

Heat & Cool Efficiently · Seal & Insulate · Join ENERGY STAR · Home > Home Improvement > Assess Your Home > **Home Performance** with ENERGY STAR ...

# HOME PERFORMANCE

Envelope



Mechanicals

+

Testing

# Residential Retrofit Business Models

## Envelope (Shell or WX)

Insulation Contractor

Spray Foam Contractor

Cellulose Installer

New Construction  
Insulator

Mixed New & Retrofit  
Insulator

Air Sealing Specialist

Weatherization

Crawl Space Repair

Basement Waterproofing

## Mechanical

Traditional Heat and Cool

Geothermal

Heat Pump Specialists

Plumber/Furnace

Ventilation

## Other & Related

Solar

Mold Remediation

Healthy Home

Handyman

Connected Home (Home  
Automation)

## Consultant/Technician

Energy Auditor

Pure Auditor

Auditor/Recommender

Auditor/Construction  
Manager

Network

Auditor/Inspector

Rater

Production Home Rater

Solo Rater

Passive House Rater

Certified Passive House  
Consultant

LEED Rater

Indoor Air Quality Tech

# Where I'm Seeing Growth

Envelope  
(Shell or WX)

Insulation Contractor

Spray Foam  
Contractor

Cellulose Installer

New Construction  
Insulator

Mixed New &  
Retrofit Insulator

Air Sealing Specialist

Weatherization

Crawl Space Repair

Basement  
Waterproofing

Mechanical

Traditional Heat and Cool

Geothermal

Heat Pump Specialists

Plumber/Furnace

Ventilation

Electrification

Other & Related

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LEED Rater

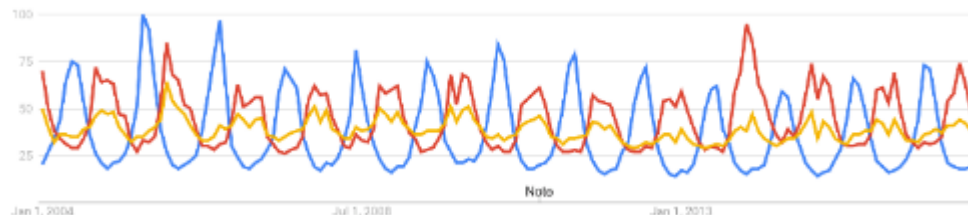
Indoor Air Quality Tech

# Commonalities of Thriving Contractors

## Service Diversity

Seasonal Balance

Emerging Categories



## Recurring Revenue

Service Contracts

Staged Retrofit Plans

## Strong Brands

Homeowner Preference

In the Real World & Online

Third Party Reviews

## Quality Operations

First Touch to Last Touch





**SERVICES THAT ARE BREAKING  
THROUGH & PROVIDING  
“GATEWAYS” TO LARGER JOBS**

# “Gateway” Concept

*the Home Performance journey begins with a single measure lead*

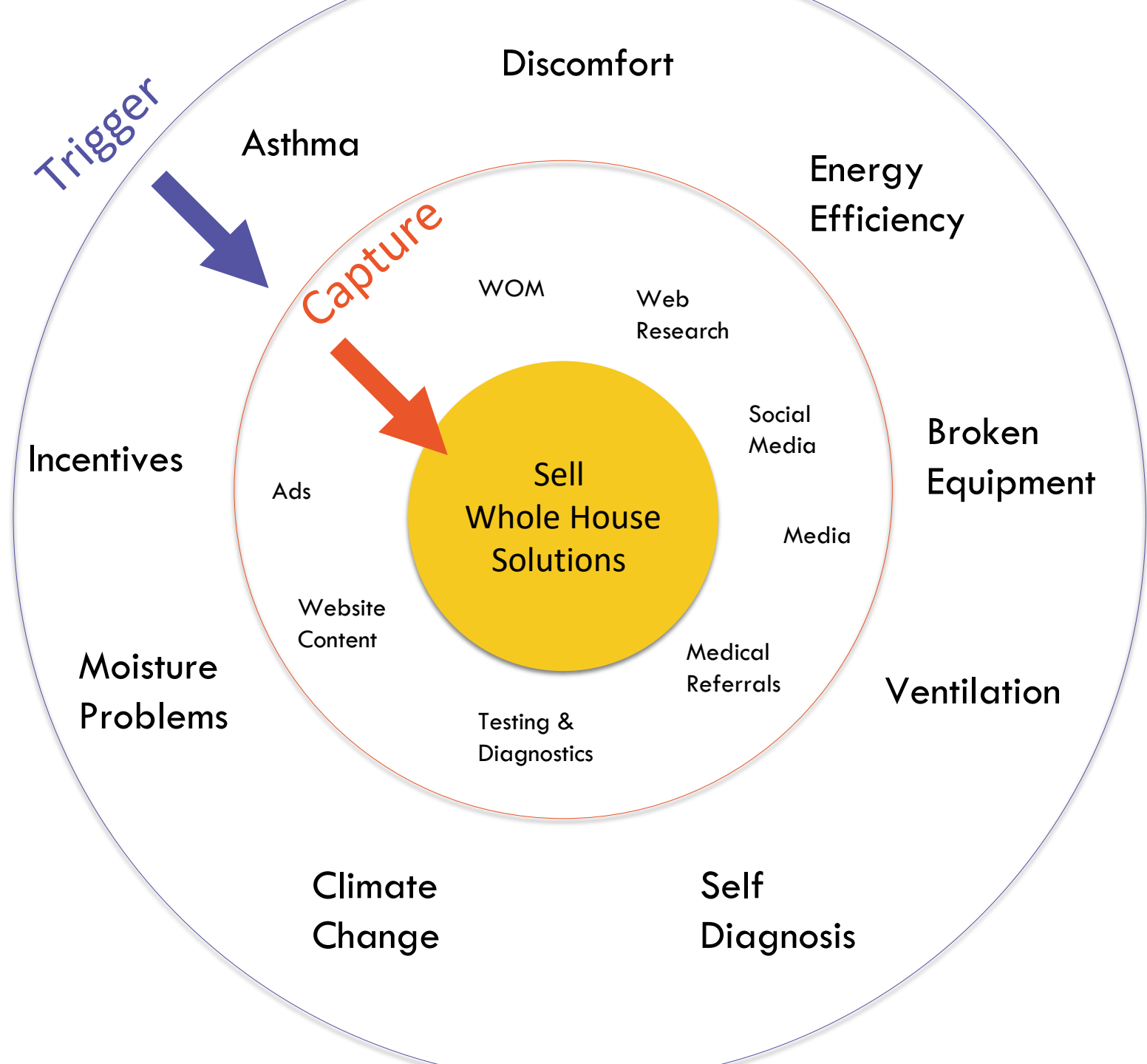


broken furnace

broken furnace  
broken furnace **meme**  
broken furnace **ignitor**  
broken furnace **thermostat**  
broken furnace **troubleshooting**  
broken furnace **thermostat symptoms**  
broken furnace **fan**  
broken furnace **heat exchanger**  
broken furnace **jokes**  
broken furnace **motor**

Google Search I'm Feeling Lucky

Report inappropriate predictions



# Gateway Concept

Homeowner concerns  
start with a *single trigger*.

Successful contractors  
*pivot the homeowner  
mindset* to system thinking  
& high impact, whole  
house jobs.

# Good Gateways, Challenging Ones

*initial triggers that are more easily converted to comprehensive jobs*

Good	Improving?	Difficult
Crawlspace Repair	Healthy Home	Windows
Discomfort	IAQ	Solar
Home Electrification	Mini-Splits (Ductless)	HVAC Repair
Net Zero	Smart Home	
Spray Foam	HVAC Service	

34

Data Sources:  
Search Volume (proxy for interest level)  
Website Conversion Rates (Visit to Lead)  
Customer Acquisition Cost (Client Provided)  
Average Job Size (Client Provided)



# QUESTIONS?

Peter Troast

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# Key Points

- Commonalities among thriving contractors include service diversity, recurring revenue streams, strong brands and quality operations
- Gateway concept: homeowner concerns start with a single “trigger;” successful contractors pivot the homeowner mindset to system thinking & high-impact, whole-house jobs
- Good triggers: crawlspace repair, discomfort, home electrification, net zero and spray foam





**Martha Campbell**  
**Rocky Mountain Institute**

The background of the slide is a composite image. It features a view of the Earth from space, showing the blue oceans and dark landmasses. Overlaid on this is a bright, glowing blue energy source, possibly a star or a fusion reactor, which emits numerous sharp, radiating lines of light across the entire scene. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blues and bright whites from the light source.

# REALIZE



Transforming global energy use to create a clean, prosperous, and secure low-carbon future.



# AGENDA

- **REALIZE OVERVIEW**
- **NETHERLANDS FIELD TRIP**
  - **ENVELOPE SYSTEMS**
  - **MECHANICAL SYSTEMS**



# AGENDA

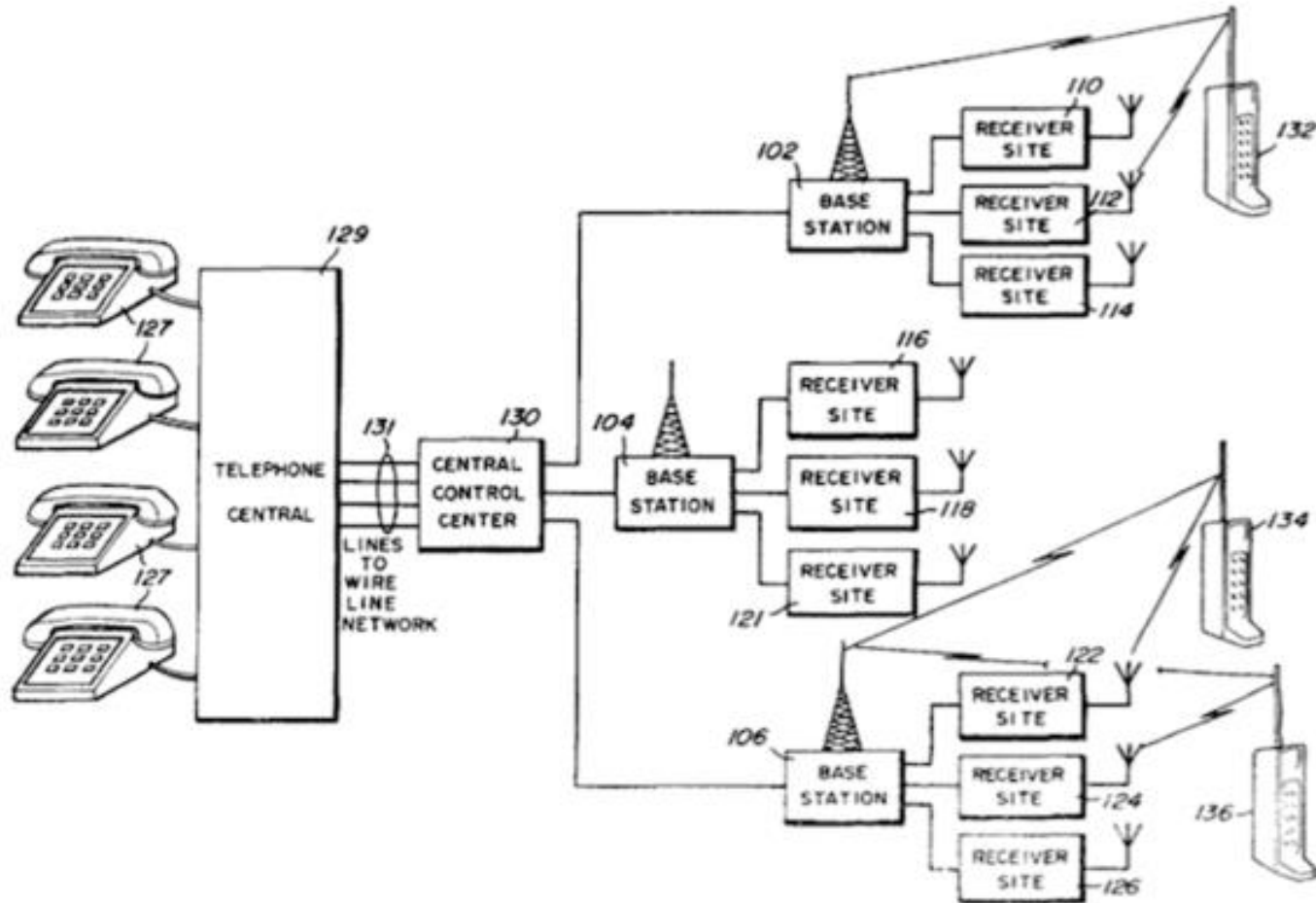
- **REALIZE OVERVIEW**
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  - **MECHANICAL SYSTEMS**





# THE PROBLEM

# A SERVICE ANALOGY







# THE SOLUTION

# ENERGIESPRONG: A MODEL OF INSPIRATION

Core offering: A net zero carbon retrofit bundle that is 1) affordable, 2) attractive, 3) ensures energy performance, and 4) can be delivered in less than two weeks



## QUALITY

*Net-zero energy homes  
with long performance  
warranties*



## NON-INTRUSIVE

*Refurbishment within a  
week to 10 days*



## AFFORDABLE

*Financeable through  
energy cost savings*



## LOOK & FEEL

*Attractive and  
comfortable homes*





# MARKET ENABLEMENT MODEL



# REALIZE: GOAL AND MISSION

REALIZE seeks to create a business model inspired by Energiesprong to catalyze industry to develop readily available, cost-effective, deep energy retrofits for the US residential market



# SOME OF OUR PARTNERS



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



**CNCA**  
CARBON NEUTRAL CITIES ALLIANCE



Passive House Institute US



CALIFORNIA  
ENERGY  
COMMISSION



**Net-Zero**  
ENERGY COALITION

**SEA**  
stone energy associates

**NEW ECOLOGY**  
Community-Based Sustainable Development



*Energie  
Sprong*



**power  
wise**

**myserda**  
Energy. Innovation. Solutions.



Natural Resources  
Canada



**REALIZE**  
A Rocky Mountain Institute Initiative



# AGENDA

- **REALIZE OVERVIEW**
- **NETHERLANDS FIELD TRIP**
  - **ENVELOPE SYSTEMS**
  - **MECHANICAL SYSTEMS**





# ENVELOPE SYSTEMS



# FACADE PANELS: A VARIETY OF SOLUTIONS



# THE KEY PLAYERS

- There are three main facade panel manufacturers in the Netherlands:
  - RC Panels - SIPs
  - Renolution - light gauge steel
  - Dijkstra Draaisma Bouwgroep (DDB) - timber framed
- RMI visited RC Panels' production facility and several project sites with RC Panels or Renolution products

# RC PANELS FACTORY PRODUCTION

## Panel Description:

- SIP panels made with fiberglass, OSB, graphite-infused foam, and waterproofing sealant material.
- Cut to meet 3D imaging model specifications by CNC machine
- Windows and doors installed into panel
- Exterior claddings applied to panel: stucco and STO brick veneer





# FACADE INSTALLATION SITE PRE-WORK



# PANEL JUNCTION DETAILS





# RENOLUTION PROJECT



# KEY LESSONS LEARNED FOR US PILOTS

- Design something that is scalable by focusing on unitized panels that can be mass customized
- Our building science will be better, but there could be something to learn from the Dutch approach of not letting the perfect get in the way of the good
- Foster development of multiple solution types
- Site pre-work and tenant engagement are key to success
  - Total delivery time was between 4-8 months, including site prep and kitchen/bathroom retrofit
  - Need to inform tenants of plans



# AGENDA

- **REALIZE OVERVIEW**
- **NETHERLANDS FIELD TRIP**
  - **ENVELOPE SYSTEMS**
  - **MECHANICAL SYSTEMS**

# ENERGIESPRONG MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

- Energiesprong retrofits are always all-electric
- The mechanical systems typically consists of a heat pump (space heating and DHW), ERV, hot water tank, solar panels, PV inverter, printed circuit board controls, an induction cooktop, and new bathroom fixtures
- In some projects, the heat pump, HPWH, ERV, PV inverter, and control board were distributed, while in others they were packaged together in one unit or one mechanical closet
  - later project iterations utilize a packaged mechanical system box, as developed by Factory Zero
- The market was late to innovate on the mechanical side and more progress has been made on the facade systems

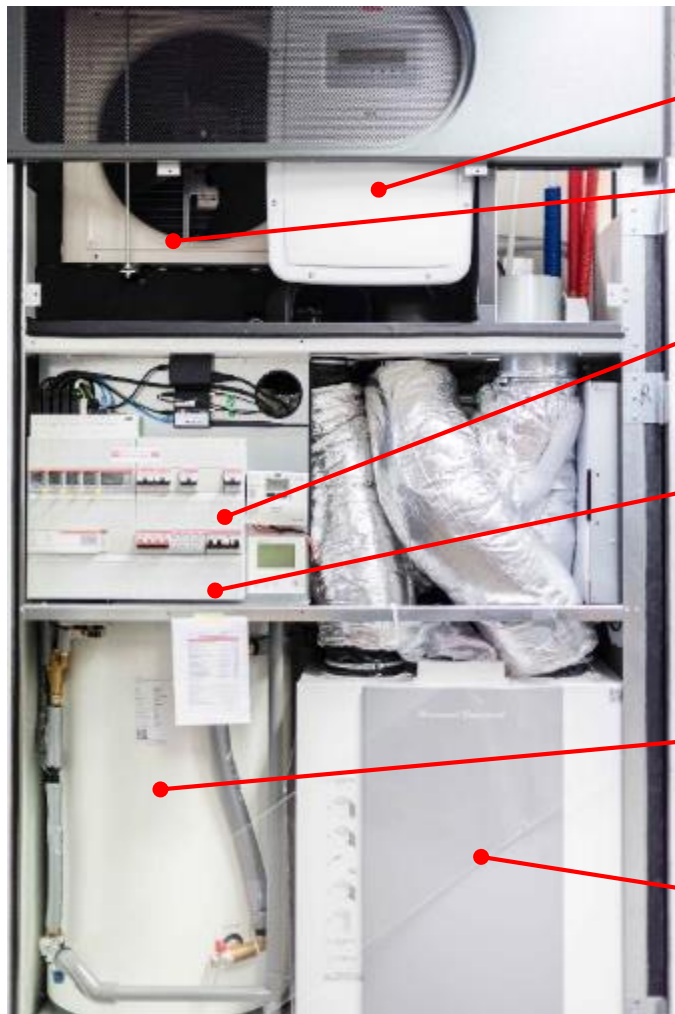


# DISTRIBUTED MECHANICAL SYSTEM EXAMPLE

- Mitsubishi HP for space heating in exterior cabinet
- Interior HPWH and tank
- Zehnder ERV



# FACTORY ZERO INTEGRATED CLIMATE ENERGY MODULE (iCEM)



**PV Inverter**

**Heat Pump (for DHW and space heating)**

**Control Board and Thermostat**

**Plumbing (behind control board and ducting)**

**DHW Tank**

**ERV**

- Parts sourced from various OEMs and assembled on site
- Approximately 8 units assembled per week
- Working with Denzo to get standardized parts for next model





# FACTORY ZERO PROJECT EXAMPLES



# INTERIOR DETAILS



# KEY LESSONS LEARNED FOR US PILOTS

- The mechanical manufacturer market could be harder to move than the facade panel market - encourage the use of integrated, packaged systems early on
- The US market will need to figure out how to incorporate cooling and dehumidification into system design (depending on the climate)
- Multiple system type options should be developed for various climates



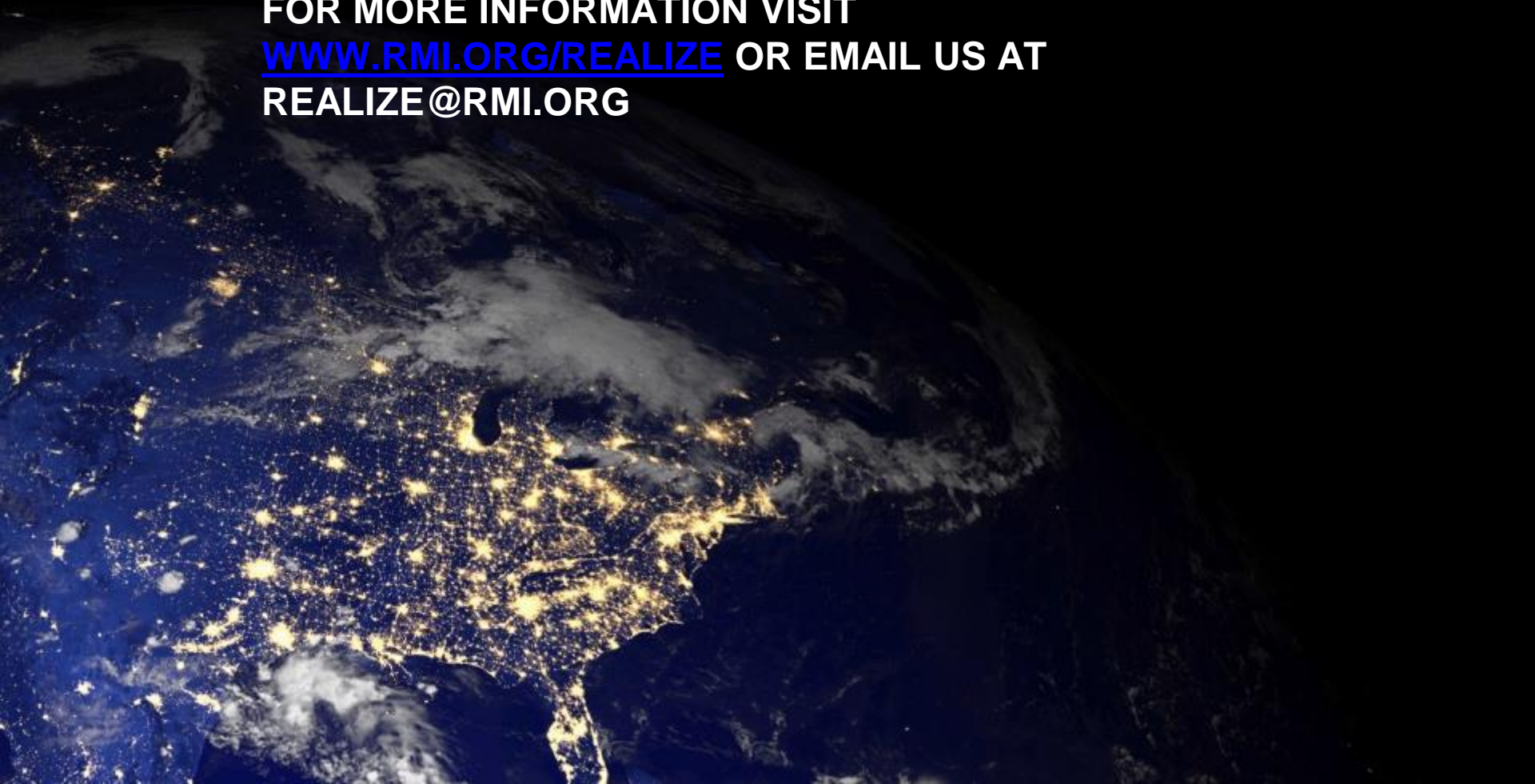


# THANK YOU

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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[WWW.RMI.ORG/REALIZE](http://WWW.RMI.ORG/REALIZE) OR EMAIL US AT  
REALIZE@RMI.ORG



# Key Points

- The Energiesprong model: a net-zero carbon retrofit bundle that is affordable, attractive, ensures energy performance and can be delivered in less than two weeks
- Key lessons from RMI's REALIZE project in the US:
  - Encourage use of integrated packaged systems early on
  - Figure out how to incorporate cooling and dehumidification into system design
  - Multiple system type options should be developed for different climates

# Explore the Residential Program Solution Center

Resources to help improve your program and reach energy efficiency targets:

- [Handbooks](#) - explain *why* and *how* to implement specific stages of a program.
- [Quick Answers](#) - provide answers and resources for common questions.
- [Proven Practices](#) posts - include lessons learned, examples, and helpful tips from successful programs.
- [Technology Solutions](#) **NEW!** - present resources on advanced technologies, **HVAC & Heat Pump Water Heaters**, including installation guidance, marketing strategies, & potential savings.



<https://rpssc.energy.gov>

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or future call topic ideas to:  
[bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov](mailto:bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov)